

REMARKS

The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action mailed July 24, 2006. In the Final Office Action, claims 1-33 and 72-115 were pending and Examiner rejected claims 1-12, 14-18, 24, 27, 30, 31, 72-86, 90-93 and 99-115. Examiner objected to claims 13, 19-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 87-89, and 94-98. Claims 5, 20-23, 29, 72, 88, 89, 97, and 98 have been amended herein. Claims 1-4, 19, 87, and 101-115 have been cancelled herein. Applicant respectfully requests that the above amendments be entered, and further requests reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein. Antecedent basis for these amendments can be found throughout the specification. Applicant reserves the right to take up prosecution on the claims as originally filed in this or an appropriate continuing application.

Examiner indicated that claims 13, 19-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 32, 33, 87-89, and 94-98 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 5 to incorporate the limitations of claim 19, and cancelled claim 19. Likewise, Applicant has amended claim 72 to incorporate the limitations of claim 87, and cancelled claim 87. Applicant has also amended claims 20-23, 29, 88, 89, 97, and 98, such that dependency will remain proper. Since Examiner indicated that claims 19 and 87 would be allowable, Applicant submits that amended claims 5 and 72 (along with all claims dependent therefrom) are allowable for at least the same reasons.

SUMMARY


In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits early notice of the same. Should Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions in furtherance of the prosecution of this application, she is invited to contact the attorney of record by telephone, facsimile or electronic mail, as indicated below.

Applicant believes that there are no fees due in association with the filing of this Response. However, should the Commissioner deem that any fees are due, including any fees for any extensions of time, Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner accept this as a Petition therefore, and directs that any fees be debited from Baker Botts L.L.P., Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*) Order Number 063718.0149.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 25, 2006

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